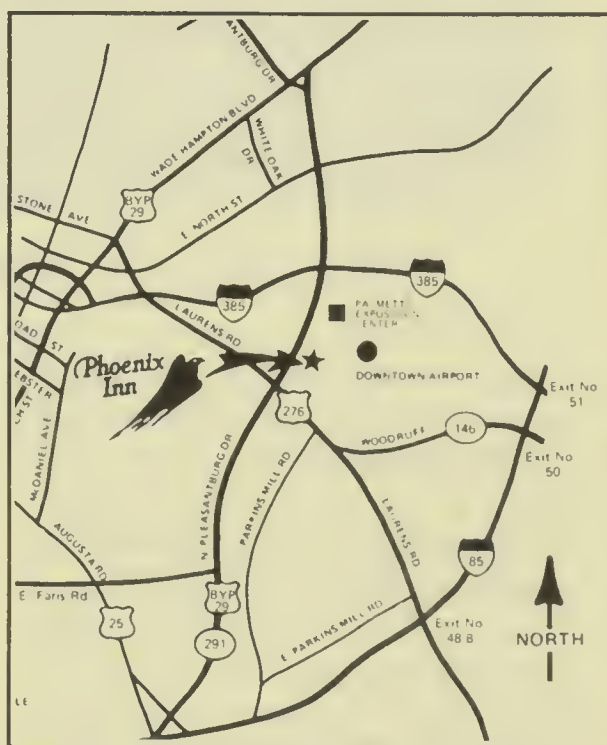


Greenville, SC Site of Spring Meeting

Peter Worthington, Robin Carter and Lex Glover have been hard at work planning the 1991 spring meeting of the Carolina Bird Club, April 26-28. So pull out your bird tapes and relearn those warbler songs; thumb through your field guide and reacquaint yourself with those spring migrants.

Headquarters for the meeting will be the Phoenix Inn at Greenville, SC. Rates are \$32 plus tax, single or double occupancy. Executive rooms and other rooms with special amenities are available at higher rates. **The reservation deadline is April 15.** Use the reservation form provided in the newsletter or call the motel at 1-800-257-3529. A bag lunch consisting of a sandwich, potato chips and fruit can be reserved at the same time for Saturday at a cost of \$4.50. A three day notice of cancellation is required for refund of deposit. The motel is located on SR 291 off N. Pleasantburg Dr. one-half mile south of its junction with I-385.

A form is also provided for advance registration for the meeting. Remember that this is a great help to our volunteer registration crew and saves you \$1.00 over registration at the meeting which begins



at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 26 at the Phoenix Inn.

Field trip plans are being finalized and will include Caesars Head State Park, Raven Cliff Falls and Jones Gap State Park in the mountains as well as areas around Greenville, Bunched Arrowhead Heritage Preserve, Paris Mountain State Park and favorite local birding spots of the Greenville Audubon Society. Bird-on-your-own suggestions will be furnished.

Those who prefer to look down rather than up will enjoy guided wildflower walks. The Friday night sign-up for field trips will be especially important as an effort will be made to keep the groups small. Trips to the same area will be scheduled with staggered departure times to help in this effort. Organizers strongly recommend a bag lunch for the Saturday field trips. Bring your own or order from the motel.

Friday activities will begin with an icebreaker/social hour with a cash bar and snacks from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Peter Worthington will lead a discussion of Saturday's field trips.

On Saturday evening the program will begin at 8:00 p.m. There will be a guest speaker in addition to the annual business meeting and election of officers and the species countdown.

The Phoenix Inn will offer a seafood buffet on Friday starting at 5:30 p.m. for \$10.95. A breakfast buffet starting at 6:00 a.m. will also be provided on Saturday and Sunday for \$4.75.

If you have questions about the meeting, contact Pete Worthington (803) 967-4183 or Lex Glover (803) 438-1703.

Sunshine, Birds & Birders

"One hundred eighty-seven! That's the most we've had since I've been doing registration." Libba Watson was talking about the number registered for the CBC winter meeting held in the Morehead City, NC area February 1-3, 1991. Although waterfowl numbers were down this year in Carteret County; rare gulls and sunshine brought a proud smile to the face of our host John Fussell. Two years ago, when CBC last met here, foul

weather had limited the total number of species sighted to 118. This year, with clear, warm weather and a record number of birders in the field, a total number of 150 species were identified including Bald Eagle, Long-billed Curlew, Common Black-headed Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Iceland Gull, and Glaucous Gull. John started things off Friday night with a slide show on the Carteret County habitat which the field trips on Saturday would

cover and the birds we could expect to see. The field trip leaders were introduced: John Fussell (Cape Lookout), Harry LeGrand (Bird Shoal), Mike Tove (Carteret County landfill, etc. for gulls), John and Paula Wright (Croatan National Forest & Down East), Ricky Davis and Debbie Scruggs (Bogue Banks & North Topsail Island). A Sunday morning stop at the New Bern quarry on the way home led by Bob Holmes was also announced. John also provided an excellent set of directions for
(continued on next page)

Birds & Birders

(continued from previous page)

on-your-own birders right down to the right tide schedule for the best birding and the favorite afternoon roosting spot for the Peregrine. The evening was concluded with a brief primer on *accipiter* identification by **Mike Tove**.

On Saturday evening, **Warren Starnes**, Biologist for the Croatan National Forest, painted a very different picture of the NFS from what many of us had in mind. At least in eastern North Carolina the emphasis is shifting from timber production to wildlife preservation and recreation. A 1991 budget of \$250,000 for wildlife management in the Croatan and Uwharrie National Forests will provide for controlled burning, cavity building for Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, and identification and protection of sensitive plant areas. Mr. Starnes predicted that we will see a revolution in the NFS over the next 5-6 years, and from what we heard, we know who will be leading the way in eastern North Carolina.

Those who didn't join the large group at the New Bern quarry on Sunday, headed home by way of the Wild Birds Unlimited shop on Highway 24 at Cedar Point. Jack and Betsy opened on Sunday especially for CBC offering members a 10% discount. Keep this shop in mind on your next trip to the Crystal Coast.

Winter Meeting Check List

Red-throated Loon, Com. Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Horned Grebe, Northern Gannet, Brown Pelican, **Great Cormorant**, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Tricolored Heron, **Green-backed Heron**, White Ibis, Canada Goose, Green-winged Teal (Am.), **Green-winged Teal (Eur.)**, American Black Duck, Mallard, N. Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Black Scoter, White-winged Scoter, Com. Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, **Bald Eagle**, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, **Rough-legged Hawk**, Am. Kestrel, Merlin, **Peregrine**



Mike Tove and party sort out gulls at the Carteret County Landfill

Falcon, N. Bobwhite, **Black Rail**, Clapper Rail, King Rail, Virginia Rail, Sora, Com. Moorhen, Am. Coot, Black-bellied Plover, **Wilson's Plover**, Semipalmated Plover, Piping Plover, Killdeer, Am. Oystercatcher, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Willet, **Whimbrel**, **Long-billed Curlew**, Marbled Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Sanderling, W. Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Short-billed Dowitcher, Long-billed Dowitcher, Com. Snipe, Am. Woodcock, Laughing Gull, **Com. Black-headed Gull**, Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, **Iceland Gull**, Lesser Black-backed Gull, **Glaucous Gull**, Great Black-backed Gull, Royal Tern, Forster's Tern, Black Skimmer, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, E. Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, **Short-eared Owl**, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, E. Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Blue Jay, Am. Crow, Fish Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, House Wren, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, E. Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, Am. Robin, Gray Catbird, N. Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Cedar Waxwing, Eur. Starling, Solitary Virco, Orange-crowned Warbler,

Pine Warbler, Palm Warbler, Com. Yellowthroat, N. Cardinal, **Painted Bunting**, Rufus-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, E. Meadowlark, Boat-tailed Grackle, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, N. Oriole, Purple Finch, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Am. Goldfinch, House Sparrow. Total 153 species.

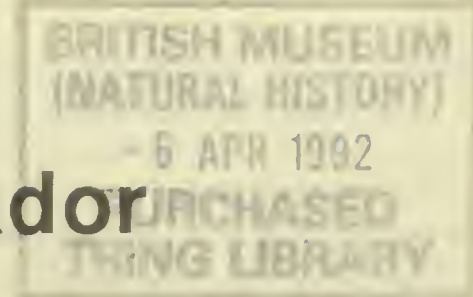
Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Patricia Wilkinson of Shelby, NC will present the following nominees at the annual meeting of the Carolina Bird Club to be held in Greenville, SC April 27:

President.....**John Wright**
Greenville, NC
Secretary.....**Simon Thompson**
Tryon, NC
Treasurer.....**Heathy Walker**
Charlotte, NC
V-P, SC.....**Peter Worthington**
Greenville, SC
M-A-L, ENC...**Frances Needham**
Wilmington, NC
M-A-L, SC.....**Teddy Shuler**
Salem, SC

Tar Heel Birders in Ecuador

by Harry E. LeGrand, Jr.



From 8 to 26 February 1990 I had my first experience birding in the tropics, as I joined six other North Carolinians and a New Yorker in a rapid-paced tour of Ecuador. Each of the other seven--Derb and Ann Carter of Raleigh, Merrill and Karen Lynch of Apex, Vaughn and Beth Morrison of Cary, and Frank Murphy of New York--had previously birded in several countries in Latin America, particularly Costa Rica and Venezuela, but never before in Ecuador. Ecuador was chosen because of its stable government and because of its 1500+ bird species, remarkable for a country the size of Colorado. Only Columbia and Peru, neighboring countries, have more bird species than Ecuador, but travelling in those countries (particularly the former) is more adventurous and less predictable than in Ecuador. It was our good fortune that Vaughn knew a few people in Ecuador who were able to help us make the necessary arrangements. He and Derb spent considerable time arrangin our four day trip to La Selva in the Amazon Basin, which was the focus of our visit.

As a novice to tropical birding, I was nervous about going with the others, who were looking for someone to fill that eighth spot at La Selva. After I agreed to go, I purchased a book on travelling in Ecuador, and then I got truly terrified. The book talked about pickpockets, cheap hotels, poor sanitary conditions, amoebic dysentery and countless other diseases, poisonous snakes, and other items that would make a grown man shudder. Most importantly, I learned that you do *not* drink tap water, do *not* eat salads, and do *not* partake of drinks with ice--unless you want to ge a visit from the dreaded amoeba and spend the most miserable three days of your life. I spent a few hundred dollars on a passport, baggage, shots, and other items that would be unnecessary for a trip out West. I met several times with the others before our departure in order to decide who would carry what items--medicine kit, scopes, field guides, and other essentials--that all eight of us did not need to bring because of space and

notes that we had received from other birders who had previously visited Ecuador so that we could develop an itinerary and a list of most wanted birds. The Andean Cock-of-the-Rock was the top bird, as it had been missed by Derb and Merrill on several previous trips, and as it is a truly spectacular bird. andean Condor, Harpy Eagle, and Torrent Duck were other species high on our list.

We arrived in Quito on 8 February, and for the next four days we birded the western slope of the Andes within a hundred miles of Quito, which sits in a high valley (about 9000 feet above sea level) between two north-south ranges of the Andes. Vaughn and Derb arranged for a bus, with two drivers (who spoke no English), for our travels so that all of us would be in the same vehicle. This was even more important, as we quickly learned the next day, because the roads in Ecuador seem to hove no names or route numbers, with very few signs at intersections to let you know where you are! We might never have gotten to any birding spots outside of Quito had we rented our own cars.

Birding in the montane forests was quite exciting, even though about half of the land was cut-over or in fields. Nonetheless, considerable forests remained on the slopes. We birded strictly from the narrow and winding roads, and the experience was not unlike birding in the North Carolina mountains from some narrow road. Naturally, many birds were voices in the woods and never showed themselves, especially wrens and other underbrush species. However, tanagers, of which there are over 90 species in Ecuador, were widespread in the mountains. Perhaps most significant is the remarkable diversity of all species, with relatively few individuals of each. You don't find 25 individuals of this tanager and 20 of that warbler; you find two of this and one of that. Although we did not have time to bird the same road twice, it is possible to bird the same road two days in a row and find about 50% new species on day 2. This simply is not the case in the United

Birding conditions in the mountains were very pleasant, with mild temperatures and no bugs. Unlike in the United State, birding is often best when fog rolls in; there are a number of tanagers that follow the clouds. Birding was sometimes slow when the sun was out, but sometimes spectacular in a light fog. Not Cock-of-the-Rock could be found at a site where others had reported it a year earlier, but instead we had a male Crested Quetzal, just as gorgeous, but still not a Cock-of-the- Rock.

On 13 February we began the key portion of our trip, all part of a 4-5 day package to La Selva (the jungle). We flew from Quito to Coca, a small town on the Napo River in the Amazon Basin about 100 miles east of Quito. From there the La Selva crew boated us down the Napo for the 50 mile trip to the lodge. Our guide, Cynthia, led us the next few days to some superb birding in the dense and dark "terra firma" forests and on several backwater lakes at the preserve. Most of the forests in the Amazon Basin are uplands, which may help to explain why so much is being cut in recent years.

We saw some of the species on our target list, such as Horned Screamer, Zigzag Heron, and Lon-billed Woodcreeper (my favorite Ecuador bird), but the rare Harpy Eagle and Sungrebe were not to be found. Parrots were everywhere; though most were seen in flight overhead. One special highlight at La Selva was the salt lick (salada) on a bank of the Napo, where several hundred parrots and parakeets of about seven species were feeding on the salt.

I had great difficulty in birding in the forest understory because of the poor light conditions and the humidity steaming up my glasses, not to mention the fact that the dozen or more antbirds at La Selva all seem to look alike. I never realized I had a birding disability until this time, and I became very bothered by the fact that others could see such birds in the jungle that were simply invisible to me. Fortunately, most of our birding was done
(continued next page)

Birders In Ecuador

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from canoes on the lakes or by looking into the canopy along wider trails or small openings. Although it was humid and hot (though no worse than Florida in summer), bugs were scarce. Nonetheless, we were advised to wear bug spray, as mosquitoes carrying malaria and yellow fever are present in the Amazon. We were all inoculated against these diseases before we came, but you can't be too careful in the jungle.

We reluctantly had to leave La Selva at 4 a.m. on 17 February, but at least we saw an Amazonian Umbrellabird flying in front of us as we boated back to Coca. Most La Selva visitors are boated back to Coca at this ungodly time in order to catch the 9 a.m. flight back to Quito. However, we arranged for our bus drivers, Pepe and Guillermo, to meet us at Coca, where they drove us around the eastern slope of the Andes for the next several days. These days were also spent on the paramo (a grassland) above timberline at two spots, including Cotopaxi National Park. We observed several of our "most wanted" birds during this period, including two within one hour at Papallacta Pass--Andean Condor and Giant Conebill. We finally found Torrent Ducks, after seemingly stopping at every bridge over a rocky stream. However, a visit to spectacular Coca Falls failed to turn up our Cock-of-the-Rock. We had three or four places on our itinerary for this bird,

and we struck out at every one.

On 22 February Beth flew back to Raleigh, and Derb, Ann, Merrill, Karen, and I flew to Guayaquil and rented a car for several days of birding in the desert scrub between that city and the Pacific. Vaughn and Frank stayed in Quito for additional birding in the Andes. These were a relaxing few days, and our pace slowed as the diversity of birdlife was much reduced. We did very well and saw most of the expected species, in part because the birds had less vegetation in which to hide in the desert scrub. White-tailed Jays, another target bird, were seen, as were thousands of North American shorebirds at salt ponds near Salinas.

On 25 February we flew back to Quito, and on the following day we flew back to Raleigh; having spent time in five airports over those two days. It was such a thrill arriving in Miami and drinking *real* tap water after having gone 18 days living on bottled mineral water! I consider it truly remarkable that eight birders spent about 150 man-days without anyone getting sick, without anyone losing anything to a pickpocket or thief, without police stopping our bus or car to swindle a few bucks, or without any other major mishaps. In that alone, the trip was a great success.

Our group found at least 580 species; of this total, 51 were tanagers, 43 were hummingbirds, 20 were parrots, and a whopping 68 were Tyrannid flycatchers! I saw approximately 420 lifers, but I had

so many glimpses of parrots overhead, female hummingbirds, distant hawks, and poor-light antbirds that I perhaps have as many "half-lifers" as lifers! I most enjoyed the tanagers, in part because they are colorful, in part because they inhabit the canopy, in part because most are montane (where the birding is easier), and in part because of the many dozens of species present in Ecuador.

I strongly recommend tropical birding for those who have gotten bored with birding in the United States. It is a completely new experience, as you must carry a field guide at all times. We were constantly discussing mystery birds--in the field while watching the bird, in the bus or car enroute to the next stop, or at the hotel that evening when we compiled our daily bird list. Also, birding with a directional microphone and tape recorder is almost essential, particularly in the Amazonian forest, as birds do not respond to pishing or squeaking. However, if you have never been to the tropics before, I don't recommend tropical birding on your own. Go with an experienced birding tour--we met Victor Emanuel and his VENT Tour group at La Selva although we did not bird with them--or go with friends who have already made a tropical birding trip. I would be too intimidated by red tape and the language barrier to try to visit the tropics on my own, but I would not let the expense of a birding tour deter me from future visits to Ecuador or other Latin American countries.

Travel Opportunities for Birders

Lake Erie Migrant Trap

Dennis Forsythe, a native of Toledo, Ohio, will lead a week end tour 9-12 May 1991 to view the spring migration on the famous Bird Trail at Crane Creek State Park east of Toledo. Similar to the situation at Pt. Pele, Ontario, large numbers of flycatchers, vireos, thrushes and warblers concentrate at the Bird Trail before crossing Lake Erie to Canada. The average tour participant should get close looks at over 100 species.

A member of the Carolina Bird Club Executive Committee, Dennis is a professional ornithologist who teaches in the Department of Biology at The Citadel in Charleston, SC. He is knowledgeable about the ethnic restaurants in Toledo as well as the birds of northwestern Ohio.

The cost of the weekend is \$475 including room (double occupancy), local transportation, leadership, and fees. A deposit of \$100 will hold a space with the balance due by April 10. Full refunds will be made if cancellation is received prior to March 23. Contact Dennis Forsythe, Dept of Biology, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409 Tel. (803) 792-7877 (work) or (803) 795-3996(home) for registration or additional information.

North Carolina Coast

CBC member, Mike Tove, is expanding his popular North Carolina pelagic trips to include an extra day of coastal land birding. Each tour will begin with a pelagic trip to the Gulf stream starting at 5:30 a.m. at Pirate's Cove

Marina in Manteo, NC. The second day of the tour will concentrate on some of the best "hot spots" for land birding on the east coast. Some of North Carolina's best birders are scheduled to lead, and the fastest, most modern boat has been reserved.

Tour dates are: May 18-19 and May 25-26 (Spring Migration); July 27-28 and August 24-25 (Summer); September 7-8 and September 21-22 (Fall Migration).

The cost of each tour is \$80 per person which covers the pelagic trip and tour leader's expenses. Food, lodging and transportation are extra. A non-refundable deposit of \$30 is required to reserve a place. Contact Mike Tove, 303 Dunhagen Place, Cary, NC 27511, Tel. (919) 460-0338 for registration or additional information.

Backyard Birding

with
Frances J. Nelson

Birds serenade me and my dogs as we walk through the woods in the mornings. Our daffodils and hyacinths are blooming, bluebirds are carrying nesting material, and the goldfinches and juncos are fewer in number. Is it really spring? Or is this just another false alarm? If so, what will happen to the bluebirds?

Betty McIlwain doesn't write about the bluebirds, but she does say the old sycamore used by many species of birds as nesting sites and by kestrels as a hunting post has been removed by the new owners. I suppose each owner has to do something to make the property belong to him/her, but that news is saddening. However, she also has good news--her flicker box, which has never housed a flicker, was again home to a Screech Owl. The owl arrived November 1, 1990 and stayed until December 22. She and friends watched as "around 5:00 p.m. the rusty head would pop out of the 3" hole, survey all activity in the yard, and then about 30-40 minutes later, a dark form would leave the box, flying off for supper (or breakfast?)." A Great Horned Owl arrived about the 22nd, and she wonders if the Screech Owl decided there was one too many owls, or if the Great Horned made the decision. At any rate, the Screech Owl left.

We still haven't seen any owls on our place, but a friend, who lives in the Hickory Hills area of Raleigh, heard owls calling and decided to explore the area. He saw two Barred Owls mating February 7 about 5:00 p.m.

We did have a pair of Mallards spend December on our pond, and on January 6 an American Black Duck joined them for the day. That's the only new addition to our property list since November. I guess new sightings will be fewer now, so we'll have to be content with returnees. I am especially anxious to see the Hooded Warbler again.

The goldfinches in their winter coats descended upon us on January 6, but now after two months, they are just about

gone. We still have a few stragglers, but the thistle feeder stays nearly full, and the sunflower feeders empty more slowly. Last week a Chipping Sparrow ate from a mixed seed feeder, and a pair of Song Sparrows flitted in and out of the azaleas. I know that for most of you the sighting of a Song Sparrow is relatively mundane, but yesterday was the first time I have actually been able to study the bird. CJ will see one and say, "there's a Song Sparrow," and, until yesterday, I agreed on faith alone. Now, I know what one really looks like.

I suppose I grew up recognizing Canada Geese, but I also got a chance to really study them, too, because on January 19, 41 (yes, I counted them and have pictures to prove it) dropped down on our little pond. The temperature was about 50 degrees, so I turned off the heat, bundled up, and opened the door, so I could listen to their music as I graded papers. Of course, I didn't get many papers read, but I did enjoy the geese. The next week, nine more came and rested briefly, but even though they were pretty, they didn't come close to the beauty of the previous week's crowd. Another bit of excitement is that we have a pair of woodcocks hanging around the northwest corner of our place. I have yet to see either of them on the ground, but I have been startled by them more than a few times. Our big dog will go traipsing along the trail right by the woodcocks, and the birds don't move. But when I come sauntering along, the birds take off. When I look for them, I can't find them, but if I'm not really paying attention to what I'm doing, they will fly up not two feet from me. What is the secret for seeing these birds on the ground?



The Sharp-shinned Hawk continues to graze at our bird buffet; we have even considered not feeding the other birds in hopes that he will go away, but thus far we have continued our regimen. We did find the hawk's dining table--a stump not too far from the house. The area around

the stump is covered with feathers from goldfinches, juncos, doves and one downy/hairy woodpecker.

Since the winter has been so mild and the hawk appears to be a permanent resident, we have had fewer birds, but the Pine Warbler visits the suet and marvel meal, the White-breasted Nuthatch has stayed all winter, and two Myrtle Warblers have been around sporadically. However, I did see plenty of myrtles at Atlantic Beach during the winter meeting of the bird club.

Because we needed to take our Shih Tzu (Nelson's Black and White Wobbler) with us, we could not stay in the motel and had to camp instead. Yes, Friday night was cold, but we stayed snug in our sleeping bags, and awoke Saturday morning to Myrtle Warblers everywhere. They were relatively tame and stayed in nearby trees as we made coffee.

On Saturday afternoon we went to the Morehead City/Beaufort bridge in search of the Peregrine Falcon, which we did not see. Instead, we saw and heard hundreds of Myrtle Warblers, and in a group, they sound like popcorn popping.

Earlier, we had been in the group that went looking for Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. We were fascinated that their nesting holes were so close to the ground, and we "saw" the little woodpeckers--at least we saw some birds that other said were Red-cockaded. On Sunday, we went by the area again, and this time we really did see the little birds and felt like we could genuinely add them to our list.

We also stopped by the quarry in New Bern, and that was a stop well worth the time. We had just begun to walk when we saw an immature Bald Eagle, and farther into the quarry we saw many other species of ducks and birds. CJ and I had to leave early because the day was rather warm and we had left our Black and White Wobbler in the car. One of these days we want to go back there and spend several hours.

We looking forward to the spring meeting in South Carolina, and we plan to camp again. Is anyone else interested in roughing it? We decided that even though we were some distance from the motel, camping was the way to attend a meeting because we had the benefit of awaking to the birds. If anyone is interested in joining us, or if you have any birding news please contact us at our new address: 1006 Dogwood Hill Lane, Wake Forest, NC 27587

Volunteers Needed for NC Breeding Bird Survey--1991

by Harry LeGrand

In 1990, birders ran 33 Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) routes in North Carolina, a notable improvement over 1989. On the negative side, there are 45 BBS routes in the state, all of which were assigned to be run. For a number of reasons, it is difficult to have all assigned routes run in a given year. Many routes are weathered out, including two of the seven that I had hoped to survey.

I am looking for volunteers to survey some of the routes that were not run in 1990. Most of the unsurveyed routes in 1990 are expected to be surveyed by the same birders in 1991, but the following routes are considered to be open (route name, followed by counties which the route traverses):

- *Arapahoe (Pamlico north into Beaufort)
- *Aydlett (Currituck south into Dare)
- *Call (Wilkes, central portion north to foothills)
- *Milltail Creek (mainland Dare--4W drive vehicle strongly recommended on dirt roads in Alligator River NWR)

- *Oteen (Buncombe, Oteen area north toward Yancy Co.)
- *Youngsville (Franklin north into Vance)

In addition to these, I have about seven or eight routes assigned to me. Several of these I would gladly give to other birders, because running this many routes is very time consuming. In particular I would like to offer to someone else the following routes I ran in 1990:

- *Lloyd Crossroads (Hertford south into Bertie)
- *Jordan (Johnston north into Franklin)

It should be remembered that the BBS tracks long term changes in abundance of species, and thus it is necessary for a given route to be run by the same observer for a number of years.

Transferring of routes from one observer to another needs to be kept to a minimum. Data continuity is lost when observers for a given route change.

Each year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service produces printouts of each state's BBS results, both by route and by species.

These are sent to the state coordinators. The species printouts are quite valuable as they show the number of birds that were recorded on each of the routes for that year. People who are interested in receiving such a printout should contact: Sam Droege, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Migratory Bird Management, Laurel, MD 20708. Telephone (301) 498-0330.

I will send each new BBS volunteer a copy of the 200 page report entitled *The Breeding Bird Survey: its First Fifteen Years, 1965-1979*. Hopefully, all of the routes can be assigned this year, and barring weather and other unforeseen problems, essentially of the routes can be run. I would like to be able to have 10-15 more routes assigned to the state in 1992, but before this can be done, we need to show the Fish and Wildlife Service that we can run the 45 routes we now have.

If you are knowledgeable of the songs and calls of birds in North Carolina and are interested in helping with the BBS, please contact **Harry LeGrand, NC Natural Heritage Program, PO Box 27687, Raleigh, NC 27611. Telephone (919) 733-7701.**

Biologist Needs Help

A North Carolina biologist is seeking to document former nesting by Piping Plovers at Oregon Inlet. Piping Plovers obviously used to nest at Oregon Inlet in the early 1970's, but there is no documentation of the presence of nests or young. Do any birders remember seeing nests or young, or distraction displays by adults, at this location? If so, please contact **John O. Fussell III, 1412 Shepard Street, Morehead City, NC 28557, Tel. (919) 240-1046.** Please provide dates of occurrence.



Chip Notes

Cranes Disappear

The last wild flock of whooping cranes, which has rebounded from the brink of extinction, has suffered a setback with the mysterious disappearance of six cranes from their wintering grounds.

The cranes, which include four of the flock's 13 chicks, disappeared from the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas sometime after late December, and though no carcasses have been found, they are presumed to have died, said Thomas V. Stehn, a biologist at the refuge.

The losses, coupled with the deaths of nine cranes during the flock's arduous 2,500 mile migration from Canada, has reduced the flock to 140 cranes--far above the low of 21 recorded in 1941, but below the 146 reported in 1990. (Reported in the *Raleigh News and Observer*, February 20, 1991)

Good PR For Birders

Members of The Genesee Ornithological Society of Rochester, NY were justifiably excited by the sighting of a Fork-tailed Flycatcher in 1990. They shared this discovery and it resulted in close to a thousand birders descending on a small residential section. Four homes were especially impacted with one homeowner incurring an expense of \$229 for topsoil and seed to repair damage done by cars.

To repair the damage to public relations the Society purchased four photographs of the bird to frame and present to the homeowners with a letter of appreciation. In conjunction with the Rochester Birding Association they are well on the way to raising \$229 to reimburse the expenses of the homeowner. (Reported in *The Goshawk*, December, 1990)

Volunteers Needed For Classrooms

The Scientist-Teacher Program of North Carolina (STEP) needs volunteer animal enthusiasts to visit elementary and middle school classrooms in Wake County Schools. We have several units on animals (i.e. animal care and handling, how animals change with the seasons and how animals change with their environments). These are some of our most popular topics and we need volunteers who will share their knowledge, enthusiasm and excitement

about birds and animals. If you would like to become a volunteer or would like more information, please call **Deanna Osmond or Judy Elson (919) 733-4745.**

CBC Rare Bird Alert

(704) 332-BIRD

Good News for Birders

A vital link to the Outer Banks was restored with the reopening of the Herbert C. Bonner Bridge February 12, 1991. Closed since October 26, 1990 when a runaway dredge collapsed a 370-foot span, the Bonner Bridge provides access for birders to the Pea Island NWR as well as other visitors to Hatteras Island. Merchants on the Island were estatic.

It was especially good news for CBC members who plan to hold their 1991 fall meeting at Nags Head September 27-29.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND ORDER FORM

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel. () _____ (home) _____ (business) _____

ENTER/RENEW MEMBERSHIP AS INDICATED

SEND MATERIALS INDICATED

____ Individual (\$12)

____ Life (\$200)

____ CBC Cloth arm patch \$1.50 ea., \$1.25 ea. in quantity

____ Family (\$15)

____ Patron (\$ 50)

____ CBC Decals (water type) 75c ea., 50c ea. in quantity

____ Student (\$ 6)

____ Daily Checklists 10/\$1.00, 25/\$1.25, 50/\$2.50, 75/\$3.75

____ Affiliate Club (\$15)

100/\$5.00

____ Library/Institution (\$15)

Make check payable to Carolina Bird Club, Inc. and mail to PO Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611

Phoenix Inn Reservation Form

Carolina Bird Club

Spring Meeting, April 26-28, 1991

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Rooms (single or double occupancy) \$32.00. Box lunches for Saturday \$4.50.

Please reserve _____ room(s) at \$32.00 per night for _____ guests and _____ box lunches at \$4.50 each. My check for the first night's lodging is enclosed. I will arrive _____ and depart _____.

Mail with deposit to **Phoenix Inn**, PO Box 5064, Station B, Greenville, SC 29606 or call 1-800-257-3529 before April 15.

Registration Form

CBC Spring Meeting, April 26-28, 1991

Name(s) _____

(list each name for name tags)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ member registrations at \$4 each and _____ nonmember registrations at \$5 each. Registration at meeting will be \$5 for members and \$6 for nonmembers.

Mail with check to **Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**, PO Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611

Welcome New Members

Juan & Kay Brown
Anderson, SC

Ruth Kirschbaum
Asheville, NC

Emily Tyler
Browns Summit, NC

M/M Frederick Bushey
Spring Lake, NC

Herman & Gail Lankford
Raleigh, NC

Bon Van Anglen
Maggie Valley, NC

Marion W. Clark
Spartanburg, SC

Mary W. McDavit
Sunset Beach, NC

Carl & Gabriella Wagner
Olean, NY

T. Dennis Coskren
Lake Wylie, SC

Tim Monroe
Greenville, NC

Lyn Watson
Sumter, SC

Christie Davenport
Clemson, SC

Thomas Padgett
Elizabethtown, NC

Laura Watts
Columbia, SC

Harriette Duncan
Goldsboro, NC

Joe Poston
Chapel Hill, NC

Joseph & Jean Williams
Hilton Head Island, SC

Don & Sylvia English
Greenville, NC

Paul Powers
Winston-Salem, NC

James Whittaker
Cary, NC

Kent Fiala
Raleigh, NC

Joseph & Elizabeth Rand
Marion, NC

Hughes Zweig
Tryon, NC

Betty Grady
Kinston, NC

Sandra Richbourg
Raleigh, NC

John Hammond
Jacksonville

Lyle & Lois Samson
Beaufort, NC

J. Dale Hutto
Little Mountain, SC

Bill Sanderson
Asheville, NC

Tim Kalbach
Prosperity, SC

Elaine Stonecypher
Columbia, SC

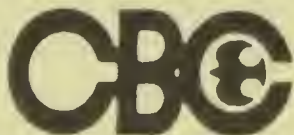
Deceased

Jane Whiteman
Jacksonville, FL

Julia Wilson
Tryon, NC

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CAROLINA BIRD CLUB, INC.



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